

We claim:

1. A device for measuring the turbidity of the rinsing liquid in a dishwasher by means of a turbidity sensor, wherein that the turbidity sensor is incorporated into the inlet flow of the circulation pump into the water drain shaft of the dishwasher and continuously measures the turbidity of the rinsing liquid, and in that the upper and lower spray plane can be operated alternately, and in that a difference value is derivable from the turbidity values associated with the upper and lower spray plane, and in that parameters for the quantity and the type of soiling can be derived from the turbidity values and the difference value, and in that the continued course of the rinse program can be established and controlled with these parameters.

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2. The device according to claim 1, wherein the turbidity value associated with upper spray plane is smaller than the turbidity value associated with the lower spray plane when the soiling of the rinsing liquid is identical.

3. The device according to claim 2, wherein the velocity of the flow of the rinsing liquid when the upper spray plane is operated is less than the velocity of the flow when the lower spray plane is operated.

4. The device according to claim 1, wherein an increase in the turbidity values is derivable from the length of time it takes until the turbidity values have achieved a zero value.

5. The device according to claim 4, wherein a parameter for the solubility of the soiling of the dishes is derivable from the length of time.

6. The device according to claim 5, wherein the continued course of the rinsing program can be established and controlled with the parameter for the solubility of the soiling of the dishes.

7. A method establishing a rinse program in a dishwasher having upper and lower spray planes and a turbidity sensor incorporated into the inlet flow of the circulation pump and in communication with the spray planes, the method comprising the steps of;

alternately operating the upper and lower spray planes;

5 measuring turbidity values associated with the upper and lower spray planes;

deriving a difference value between the turbidity values;

deriving parameters for the type and quantity of soil based on the turbidity and difference values;

establishing a rinse program based on the derived parameters.

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8. The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of deriving a parameter for the solubility of the soiling of the dishes from the length of time it takes until the turbidity values have achieved a zero value.